REMARKS

Applicant wishes to thank the Examiner for the detailed remarks. Claims 1, 3, 4, 8, 12 and 13 have been amended and claim 2 has been canceled. New claims 20-27 are presented. Accordingly, claims 1 and 3-27 are pending.

Claims 1-2 and 12 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being anticipated by *GB2130682A*. Applicant respectfully traverses this rejection. *GB2130682A* provides a framework which pivots about axle shaft 34. The pinion 30 is mounted though an opening in a plate 25 mounted about the axle shaft 34. *The pinion 30 is therefore radially supported and may only move in a constrained arcuate manner along an arc define by arrow A.* *GB2130682A* fails to disclose radially unsupported pinion shaft providing a flexibility to define a floating pinion gear displacement envelope as recited in the amended claims.

Claims 3-11 and 13-19 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over *Kish (5813292)* in view of *GB2130682A*. Applicant respectfully traverses these rejections as there is absolutely no teaching, suggestion, or motivation to modify *Kish (5813292)* in view of *GB2130682A* as proposed. The Examiner admits that *Kish (5813292)* does not teach wherein the first gear axis of rotation, the second gear axis of rotation and the pinion gear axis of rotation located along a common line, the pinion gear axis of rotation displaceable off the common line to split a load between the first gear and the second gear. As described above, *GB2130682 A* provides a framework which pivots about axle shaft 34 such that the pinion 30 may move in a constrained arcuate manner along an arc define by arrow A. The Examiner refers to pinion 114L/R as the "floating pinion," however, there would be no benefit to move pinion 114L/R in an arc as taught by *GB2130682A*. *In fact, any arcuate movement applied to any gear in Kish (5813292) would render Kish (5813292) inoperable.* It is improper to modify the base reference in such a way that it ruins the goal or function of the base reference. The Examiner's proposed modification would do so.

Even if the combination were properly made, there are differences between the claimed invention and the teachings of the cited references so that the combination does not meet the limitations of Applicant's claims. Notably, *Kish* is assigned to the assignee of the present

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application. *Kish*, although effective, provides rigid precisely machined gear interfaces. The only gear movement *Kish* discloses is the relative axial movement between gears 116L/R and 114L/R in response to movement between the double helical bull gear 108 and the double helical bull pinions 118L/R. This is why gears 116L/R and 114L/R are spurs gears – to permit axial movement therebetween. That is, pinion gear 114L/R must be radially supported and the axis of rotation cannot be displaceable within an envelope of any type. Furthermore, contrary to the Examiner's position, gear 114L/R is not a "floating pinion" as gear 114L/R are fixed axially and radially because they must receive power from shafts 104L/R, which are connected to a gas turbine.
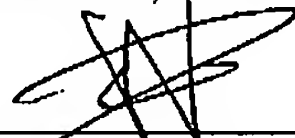
New claims 20-27 recite further features of the present invention which are neither disclosed nor suggested by the cited references and are thus properly allowable.

Please charge $108.00 to Deposit Account No. 50-1482, in the name of Carlson, Gaskey & Olds, for 6 claims in excess of 20. If any additional fees or extensions of time are required, please charge to Deposit Account No. 50-1482.

Applicant respectfully submits that this case is in condition for allowance. If the Examiner believes that a teleconference will facilitate moving this case forward to being issued, Applicant's representative can be contacted at the number indicated below.

Respectfully Submitted,

CARLSON, GASKEY & OLDS, P.C.

DAVID L. WISZ
Registration No. 46,350
Attorneys for Applicant
400 West Maple, Suite 350
Birmingham, Michigan 48009
(248) 988-8360

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